

CONNECTION

LIBRARY OF CALIFORNIA

 CALIFORNIA
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Library of California News

Seven regional library networks are set to go

Regional representatives, board members, and LoC staff celebrated a momentous event in November as all of the Library of California planning regions became regional library networks. A reception following the November board meeting in Santa Clara celebrated the watershed moment. The LoC board presented a plaque to each regional library network recognizing its formation.

Now with all seven regions approved, and with 1,312 libraries as members, all of the elements for network operations are finally in place. Approval of funding for network operations by the LoC board in November provided the means for all seven of the regional library networks to begin operations on January 1, 2001.

At the November 2000 board meeting, the LoC board granted \$361,000 to each network to provide services to its members for the period of January to June 2001. During this time, the networks will establish operations, develop and deliver services, prepare and approve budgets, and develop plans of service for the upcoming fiscal



James Dawe, LoC board president, Sarah Pritchard, UC Santa Barbara library director, Diana Paque, LoC director, Judith Segel, Black Gold system director, Bessie Tichauer, CSL liaison to Gold Coast, and John Kallenberg, LoC board member, help celebrate Gold Coast's becoming a regional library network

year. Each network is also working with its membership council to select a board of directors for the regional library network, appoint staff, and deliver services as prescribed by the LoC Act. Networks are authorized to expend their funds only on those required elements of the act during this first half year to ensure that all the regional networks begin to establish required services. The required elements are:

- reference and information services (Ed. Code Sect. 18846)
- delivery (Ed. Code Sect. 18842 (c))
- training (Ed. Code Sect. 18845)
- administration, including development and support of the network council (Ed. Code Sect. 18841)
- public relations (Ed. Code Sect. 18847)
- telecommunications (Ed. Code Sect. 18842 (a))
- intraregional communications (Ed. Code Sect. 18842 (b))

For general information about the LoC or the regional library networks, visit the CSL website at www.library.ca.gov/loc. For further information about the regional networks and the LoC, call Diana Paque, LoC director, at (916) 653-7183, or by email to dpaque@library.ca.gov.



LoC board members and CSL staff pose for group photo at regional library network reception.

First row: LoC board members Susan Steinhauser, James Dawe, LoC president, Jane Lowenthal, Sally Tuttle, Victoria Fong, LoC vice president, and Mary Purucker.

Second row: CSL staff Tom Andersen, Diana Paque, and Sandy Habbestad.

Third Row: Christopher Berger-CSL staff, Mark Parker-LDS bureau chief, John Kallenberg, LoC board member, Liz Gibson-LDS assistant bureau chief, and CSL staff Bessie Tichauer and Ira Bray.

Mind Over Mammoth

by Mary Hanson

A new look for California libraries

[Reprinted from the Mammoth Times with permission]

On Nov. 10 a long-held dream became a reality: the Library of California approved seven networks for all regions in California. Library of California: "One Library, 8,000 Doors" is a motto we have worked for for over 10 years. What does that mean? It means cooperation and interlibrary loan among all libraries in the state: not just the public libraries, but also the academic libraries, special libraries and school libraries.

Mono County Free Library is a charter member of the Sierra Valley Library Network, joining 14 other county libraries: Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Merced, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tuolumne, Yolo and Yuba. Added to those resources are the libraries of California State University Sacramento and Stanislaus; UC [i.e., University of California] Davis, Columbia College, University of the Pacific and McGeorge School of Law. Some special libraries include the California State Library, California Department of Water Resources/Law Library, E&J Gallo Winery, Sutter Resource Medical Library and the law libraries of Merced, Placer and Sacramento counties. Last but not least are 28 school libraries.

Since the late 1980s the library community has been working on this project. As a System Advisory Board (SAB) member for the Mountain Valley Library System, I attended many meetings (four per year, duplicated in the north and south) in which we determined who should be involved, how it would operate, how to make it fair and how to make it work. During that time technology has changed a lot of what had been perceived as major obstacles. It was a hot day in Fresno when we worked on the final draft of the proposed legislation.

At that time the state funded interlibrary loan and advanced reference only for public libraries. The Mountain Valley Library System saw that the public was being denied a great resource in our service area: Academic and special libraries. So we started to expand by inviting UC Davis and California State University Sacramento and the Los Rios Community College District, the Sacramento County Law Library and the Sutter Resource, among others, to join us as full members. Since the state law did not allow for reimbursement to them for interlibrary loan, we set up a "member share" fee system in which all paid into the system. This prototype of the Library of California has served Mono County well for years.

In 1998 the bill was passed and the Library of California was approved. It has been 18 months of planning and lots of hard work to establish our network: The Sierra Valley Library Network (all kinds of legal steps



had to be taken: 29 pages of bylaws, articles of incorporation, etc.) On Friday, Nov. 10, we became official!

In this technological age, sharing library resources is a lot more than borrowing books (although that is still a major component of the service). Securing access to electronic databases is a great part of what the network can do for the individual, small, rural libraries such as Mono County: OCLC [i.e., Online Computer Library Center, Inc.], which allows you [to] search the collections of other libraries to find a book; First Search, which brings up the full text of magazine articles; and the Electric Library, which gives access to TV scripts, transcripts of news broadcasts, newspaper articles, and other kinds of media.

So come to the library! Whether your branch is Mammoth or Benton, Bridgeport or Coleville, Lee Vining or June Lake, there is a lot more in your library than appears at first glance. There are the books you can see, but there are also the books in 8,000 other libraries!

Thanks to Wally Hoffman, publisher of The Mammoth Times, for his permission to reprint this article.

For general information about the Library of California, visit the CSL website at www.library.ca.gov/loc/. For further information, contact Diana Paque, LoC director, at (916) 653-7183, or by email to dpaque@library.ca.gov.

Meet our Library of California libraries: county law libraries

The Library of California is open to libraries of all types: academic, public, school, special, and county law libraries. So what is a county law library? Have you ever heard of county law libraries? Do you know where your nearest county law library is?

There are county law libraries in all 58 counties of the state. Some of them have several facilities in the county. At the other end of the scale, some are the proverbial "broom closet library" that no one can find. Each county in California is required to have a county law library, and, by law, its main purpose is to provide all Californians living in these counties with the legal information they need to conduct their lives. Currently, 14 county law libraries have become members of the LoC regional library networks.

County law libraries provide a wide variety of legal resources, from standard treatises and codes to online legal services and Internet access for legal research. Since they vary so widely in their size and sophistication, the resources they can make available to the public also vary widely. Ninety percent of the income of California county law libraries derives from a small portion of the filing fees that people must pay when taking a case to civil court. Unfortunately, the total dollar amount of these fees has been steadily decreasing.

Who makes up the clientele of county law libraries? According to an October 2000 survey by the Council of California County Law Librarians, about one half are, as one might expect, attorneys. However, that also means that the other half are not. Five percent identified themselves as paralegals, 9 percent as students, 7 percent

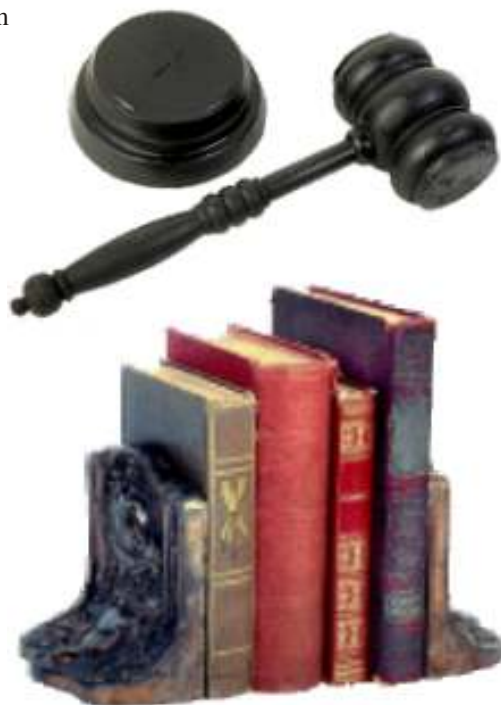
as various other categories of law-related persons, and 29 percent identified themselves as "non-attorneys" or the general public.

What use do patrons make of their county law libraries? According to this same survey, 43 percent used the county law library to work on a specific legal case, 20 percent needed information unavailable at their office (presumably their law office), 13 percent were trying to draft a legal document, 10 percent needed to find a particular legal form, 9 percent were researching their legal rights, and 6 percent were completing a school assignment.

In an attempt to improve services to Californians and increase their responsiveness to their users, California's county law librarians are currently undertaking a Library Services and Technology Act-funded study of county law library services and their funding options. The results of this study

should be available in October 2001.

If you would like to contact your county law library, each one is listed in the index under the name of its county in the CSL publication *California Library Directory 2000*. To order a printed copy of this publication, include the title, number of copies wanted, and the shipping address of the requesting library and fax the request to Martha Ortiz, LDS bureau, at (916) 653-8443, or mail to California State Library, Library Development Services Bureau, P.O. Box 942837, Sacramento, CA 94237-0001. This directory is also available on the California State Library website at www.library.ca.gov under "Products."





OFFICE OF LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION

Administration

Richard Hall
Library Bond Act Manager
(916) 653-7252

Marilyn Crouch
Deputy Library Bond Act Manager
Library Grants Program Administrator
(916) 651-8304

Sharon Robinson
Executive Secretary
(916) 651-8223

Patty Wagoner
Associate Governmental Program Analyst
(916) 657-3513

Fiscal

Curtis Purnell
Staff Services Manager I
(916) 654-1483

Compliance

Barbara Silken
Library Programs Consultant (Title 24)
(916) 653-7432

Linda Springer
Library Programs Consultant (Title 5)
(916) 653-5572

Bond board faces difficult decisions

The board that will oversee the distribution of bond funds to public libraries in California met late in November and was immediately confronted with two major issues.

One of the knottier problems faced by the board is the definition of "joint use." The \$350-million bond issue passed by the voters in March specifies that preference will be given to projects that involve joint use of the facilities by public libraries and schools. Does this mean that new libraries must be built adjacent to public schools? Or does it mean that public libraries must incorporate study centers and other facilities intended for the use of students? The resolution of this issue promises to be one of the major policy determinations the board will have to make during the coming year.

Another difficult issue was raised by State Treasurer Philip Angelides. He discussed the importance of building planning in bond act applications being guided by principles of sustainable growth and urban planning. State Librarian Dr. Kevin Starr indicated a concern that, while these principles are generally valid, their application without some modification might make it difficult for rural, suburban, and branch library projects to achieve a high enough point score to receive funding. The board will deal with these important-but-potentially-conflicting principles in future board meetings.

In addition to these two thorny questions, the board must also resolve issues such as how many application cycles will be allowed, how much time to allow between application cycles, and dozens of other matters that must be embodied in clearly written rules to ensure a fair and efficient construction program.

Following the meeting of the bond act board, staff have held informal public hearings in Temecula, San Jose, Pasadena, and Sacramento to receive oral and written comments on all aspects of the rules and regulations that will eventually guide the distribution of funds.

Richard Hall, manager of the bond act, says that a summary of the comments received will be presented at the next meeting of the board, which has not yet been scheduled.

Internet filtering mandate passed by Congress

A rider amendment requiring schools and libraries to use Internet filters in order to receive federal technology funding passed both houses of Congress as part of the Labor H H S Education Appropriations Bill (HR 4577) and has been forwarded to the president for his signature.



Services (IMLS), which administers the LSTA federal grant program, reports that they are requesting legal advice from their counsel on interpretations and requirements of the amendment's provision, should it be signed by the president.

The "Children's Internet Protection Act," or CIPA, targets four separate federal funding sources relating to information technology: school technology funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), library technology funds under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), E-rate discounts for schools, and E-rate discounts for libraries. If it becomes law, CIPA will require that schools and libraries install and use a "technology protection measure," or Internet filter, that controls access to material considered harmful to children 16 years of age and younger.

Jane Heiser, of the Institute of Museum and Library

For more information on this topic, visit any of the following web sites: the Washington, DC office of the American Library Association, at www.ala.org/washoff/alawon/alwn9100.html, the Center of Democracy and Technology at www.cdt.org or the University of Tennessee, Knoxville at web.utk.edu/~wulf/filterindex.html. The University of Tennessee site provides general information about filtering issues, including a section entitled "Some Organizations in Favor of Internet Filtering."

To read a copy of CIPA as passed by Congress, see www.cdt.org/legislation/106th/speech/001218cipa.pdf.

LSTA proposals due by January 12, 2001

In August 2000 State Librarian Kevin Starr announced that Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds are available for the 2001/2002 fiscal year. The first part of the LSTA application procedure, the funding proposal, must be submitted to the Library Development Services bureau of the California State Library by January 12, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. This is the date the proposals must be received at CSL.

The proposal is the first of a two-step procedure for applying for LSTA grant funds. In a couple of pages it outlines the library program, concept, or service for which the applicant library is requesting grant funds. LSTA is a competitive grant program, so review of the proposal will be



judged on its competitiveness with other submitted proposals. The state librarian will send a letter to all those submitting LSTA proposals advising them on the competitiveness of their proposals. These will be sent out April 9-13, 2001 by mail. Completed applications may then be submitted, which will be due at LDS on June 11. The grant awards will be announced after the state librarian has decided which of the submitted projects will receive LSTA funding. The projects can officially begin once the applicant library receives the state librarian's LSTA grant award letter.

LSTA is a federally-funded grant program for libraries administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). It provides local assistance grants to libraries in the areas of technology innovation, resource sharing, multitype library networking, and targeted services to the underserved, disadvantaged, geographically isolated, or illiterate. Libraries of all types, academic, corporate, institutional, public, school, and special, are all eligible for funding.

For general information on LSTA, or to find an application packet, visit the California State Library Web site at www.library.ca.gov/html/grants.html. For further information on LSTA, contact Jay Cunningham, LSTA program coordinator, CSL, at (916) 653-8112, or by email to jcunningham@library.ca.gov.

For general information about IMLS, visit their website at www.imls.gov.



Selected CRB reports on different issues available to libraries

Since its founding in 1991, the California Research Bureau (CRB) of the California State Library has provided objective, nonpartisan research to the governor's office, both houses of the California legislature, and elected state officials. The CRB publishes in-depth reports on a wide variety of public policy-related topics that could result in current or future legislation. If the governor, state legislator, or elected public official commissioning the research gives his or her permission, these reports are available for the general public to read. Below is a list of recent CRB publications that might be of interest to librarians:

- *A Coordinated Approach to Raising the Socio-Economic Status of Latinos in California*, edited by Elias Lopez, Ginny Puddefoot, and Patricia Gandara. Report No. CRB-00-003. March 2000.

Current projections estimate that Latinos in California will comprise over 40 percent of the state's population and will be the largest ethnic group by the year 2025. As a group, however, they have not attained a high level of education. This report outlines an approach for raising the socio-economic status of Latinos within the state.

- *County Services: A Tale of Eight Counties*, by Jennifer Swenson. Report No. CRB-99-003. February 1999.

This report, commissioned by the Senate Local Government committee, examines the effect of the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) shifts on local government services in Alameda, Lake, Los

Angeles, Merced, Placer, Riverside, Santa Clara, and Solano counties.

- Lopez, Elias. "Major Demographic Shifts Occurring in California." *CRB Notes*, vol. 6, no. 5 (October 1999).

Since 1940 California's demography has changed. This report identifies four major demographic shifts in the state: natural increase as the most important source of population growth; domestic and/or international migration's importance to California's population increase; ethnic diversity and its effect on the majority population in the state; the number of persons 65 years and over.

- *Profile of California Computer and Internet Users*, by Rosa Maria Moller. Report No. CRB-00-002. January 2000.

Those having access to computer technology and those who do not, commonly known as the "digital divide," is the focus of this report that profiles computer and Internet use and users within California.

The above CRB reports are available on the CSL website at www.library.ca.gov under the heading CRB Reports. To order any of these publications, include the title of the publication, the CRB report number, the number of copies wanted, and the shipping address of the requesting library. Requests can be placed by phone to the CRB at (916) 653-7843, or by email to crb@library.ca.gov, or by mail to California State Library, California Research Bureau, P.O. Box 942837, Sacramento, CA 94237-0001.

Library recruitment program addresses the shortage of librarinas



Marion, the stereotypical librarian, has retired. Her replacement, Flo, the info pro, is a librarian of the new millennium. She speaks the lingo of the webmasters; is well versed about digital libraries, electronic books (e-books), and other technologies; and can speak fluently about traditional library philosophies and practices. Unlike Marion, high technology and other private sector companies seek Flo's skills and knowledge of information organization and retrieval. Upon receiving her master's degree in library and information science, Flo is lured into working for private industry where stock options, signing bonuses, high salaries, and other perks are hard to ignore.

In the booming technology industry in California, the

value placed on librarians' skills and knowledge has made these types of library careers highly attractive for new library school graduates. At the same time, however, the pool of new library school graduates considering careers in public

libraries has almost evaporated. From one end of the state to the other, libraries are having difficulty finding and hiring librarians to serve remote or rural populations, non- or limited-English speaking populations, seniors, children, and all the other segments of California's population. To help address this problem, the California State Library initiated the Public Library Staff Education Program in 1998. Funded with federal LSTA grant funds, this program seeks to increase the number of librarians, and library staff members, available to provide library services to all residents of the state, especially in underserved communities. This is achieved through the provision of tuition reimbursement, on a competitive basis, to individuals employed in California public or county law libraries who are seeking their master's degree in library and information science.

As one library director comments, "This type of grant is extremely valuable as it encourages the best paraprofessionals to pursue a master's and helps the library to retain and 'grow' excellent, future leaders in the

profession. With the competition what it is today for librarians, this grant offers a public library the opportunity to keep good people."

Under this program, employees of public and county law libraries who have been working in their positions for at least a year, and have been accepted into an American Library Association accredited graduate library education program, are eligible to apply for tuition reimbursement. Applications are generally mailed out to all California public and county law libraries, and to California library education programs in late spring of each year, with the application due in late summer. A selection committee reviews the applications, and only the most competitive applications receive funding. Actual awards are made to the library where the person applying for tuition reimbursement works. This library is responsible for administering the funds to the student under the terms of the program.

Currently over 70 public or county law library staff members are receiving full or partial tuition reimbursement for their studies. Since the first awards that were made in 1998/99, many of these individuals have received their master's degree in library science, and have been promoted to, or have secured, professional library positions.

Since the need to recruit or "grow" librarians is a statewide problem, a committee composed of public library representatives from across the state worked on development of this program. That committee consisted of: Ray Schroff, Tehama County Library; Ken Yamashita, Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library; Krystal Roberts, San Francisco Public Library; Julia Orozco, Salinas Public Library; Grace Francisco, Oceanside Public Library; and Cliff Lange, Carlsbad Public Library.

This project is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the state librarian.

For general information on the Public Library Staff Education Program, visit the CSL website at www.library.ca.gov/html/libserv.html. Under "Funding Programs," click on the Public Library Staff Education Program. For further information, contact Kathy Low, human resources and recruitment consultant, CSL, at (916) 653-6822, or by email to klow@library.ca.gov.

2001

January 12, 2001

LSTA fiscal year 2001/2002 proposals due

January 12-17, 2001

American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter meeting, Washington, DC

January 17, 2001

Robert Hass, former poet laureate for the U.S., reads his poetry in the auditorium of the Resources Building, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento at 5:00 p.m., sponsored by the California State Library and the Resources Agency.

January 23, 2001

Gary Snyder reads from his poetry at a celebration for a new anthology, *The Literature of California*, published by the University of California Press, at 3:30 p.m. in the California Room, Fourth Floor, State Capitol Building, Sacramento.

At 5:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Rotunda there will be a reception hosted by Robert M. Hertzberg, speaker of the California Assembly, in honor of the book. The reception and reading are sponsored by the Speaker's Office, the California State Library, the U.C. Press, and U.C. Davis.

February 14-16, 2001

Library of California board meeting, Riverside

March 1-3, 2001

Public Library Association (PLA) Spring Symposium, Chicago

March 15-18, 2001

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)
National Conference, Denver

April 25-27, 2001

Library of California board meeting, Sacramento

June 9-14, 2001

Special Libraries Association Annual Conference, San Antonio

June 14-20, 2001

ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco

June 27-29, 2001

Library of California board meeting, Fresno

August 15-17, 2001

Library of California board meeting, San Diego

October 31-November 2, 2001

California School Libraries Association (CSLA)
Annual Conference, Long Beach

November 2-5, 2001

California Library Association (CLA) Annual Conference, Long Beach

November 5-7, 2001

Library of California board meeting, Long Beach

November 14-18, 2001

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
National Conference, Pittsburgh, PA

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California State Library
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Dr. Kevin Starr

State Librarian
(916) 654-0174
kstarr@library.ca.gov

Robert Daseler

Communications
Editor
(916) 654-0108
rdaseler@library.ca.gov

Christopher Berger

Library Development Services
Assistant Editor
(916) 653-8313
cberger@library.ca.gov

Library of California Board

James Dawe, Esq.
President

Articles for inclusion in a
future issue of the

Connection are welcomed.

Please submit articles or
suggestions to the *Connection*
editor, Robert Daseler.



CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY
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California State Library
914 Capitol Mall
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

Library of California Board
900 N Street, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001